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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 JERUSALEM 002673

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

NEA FOR FO; NEA/SA/EX FOR AUSTIN-FERGUSON; DEPT FOR DS/IP/ITA; DEPT FOR DS/IP/NEA; NSC FOR ABRAMS/DANIN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PTER PBTS PHUM KWBG KPAL IS ASEC
SUBJECT: WB/G SITREP: JUNE 29, 2005 (1800 HOURS LOCAL) -DISENGAGEMENT OPPONENTS CLASH WITH PALESTINIANS IN GAZA;
IDF RAIDS CONTINUE NEAR TULKARM

11. (SBU) SUMMARY: Five disengagement opponents and one Palestinian were lightly wounded in June 28 stone-throwing clashes that broke out in al-Mowassi in Gaza. In the West Bank, IDF raids continued in the area of Allar, Attil, and Saida. Several Palestinian activists suffered minor injuries in confrontations with the IDF during an anti-separation barrier demonstration near Hebron. END SUMMARY.

West Bank

- 12. (SBU) ATTACKS:
- -- Deaths: Nil.
- -- Injuries: Palestinian sources reported that seven Palestinians were lightly wounded by tear gas and rubber-coated bullets during clashes with IDF forces that erupted on June 28 during anti-separation barrier demonstrations near the village of Ramadin, southwest of Hebron.
- -- Arrests: Two Palestinian minors from al-Arub refugee camp were arrested on June 29 for throwing stones at passing cars, according to Palestinian sources.
- -- Arrests: Palestinian security sources reported that four people were arrested in various parts of the West Bank, but did not specify the locations or offenses.
- -- Attacks: According to Palestinian media reports, an IDF jeep came under fire while patrolling Halhoul village, north of Hebron, on June 28. No injuries were reported.
- -- Security Incidents: IDF forces continue to conduct raids in the area of Allar, Attil, and Saida, all near Tulkarm, searching for Wadi Shadid, a senior al-Aqsa Martyrs, Brigades member. Palestinian sources reported that the IDF had taken over several houses in the village and turned them into military observation points.
- 13. (SBU) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:
- -- President Mahmoud Abbas met with representatives of Hamas and other factions June 28 at the Muq,ata to discuss the security situation.
- -- PM Ahmad Quraya' announced that the PA would remain in a state of emergency until the disengagement plan is implemented. He also stated, according to Palestinian media, that the PA will incorporate all wanted activists in Gaza into the PA security services.

Gaza

- 14. (SBU) ATTACKS:
- -- Deaths: Nil.
- -- Injury: UNRWA reported that IDF soldiers injured one Palestinian overnight June 28-29, when the soldiers opened fire on two Palestinians attempting to plant a roadside bomb near Morag.
- -- Injury/Arrests: Israeli media reported that five settlers and one Palestinian were lightly injured June 28 in al-Mowassi during stone-throwing clashes that broke out between Palestinians and approximately 20 Israeli disengagement opponents camped in an abandoned house there, near the recently demolished outpost dubbed Tal Yam. Israeli police arrested a total of seven settlers June 28, according to media reports, and clashes between the soldiers and settlers erupted subsequently. The settlers remained in possession of the abandoned building as of 1300 hours, although the media reported that the IDF and the police are

planning to remove them.

-- Mortars/Rockets/Shootings: The IDF reported that Palestinian militants fired three mortar shells and launched three shooting attacks on IDF and Israeli settler targets in the southern Gaza Strip overnight June 28-29. No injuries were reported in any of these attacks.

15. (SBU) BORDER CROSSINGS:

- -- Route Four (Salahadeen Road), the main north-south traffic artery, was open June 29, with a major detour at Netzarim Junction.
- -- Erez Crossing was open June 28, and 4,220 laborers and 410 merchants crossed into Israel.

 -- The Erez Industrial Zone was open June 28, and 559
- laborers entered.
- -- Sufa Crossing was closed for Palestinian laborers June 29, but was open for the import of aggregates used in construction.
- -- Karni Terminal was open June 29.
- -- Rafah was open June 29 for both arrivals and departures. Palestinians reported that only 100 or so Palestinians per day are allowed to move each way and that there is a backlog of some 1,000-2,000 people waiting to cross
- -- Tel al-Sultan checkpoint was closed June 22. Toufah checkpoint was open for residents of al-Mowassi, except males aged 16-30. PEARCE